

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 16, 2001

CONTACT: Nikki Horner
Information Officer
(615)741-2257 (O)
(615)297-0105 (H)

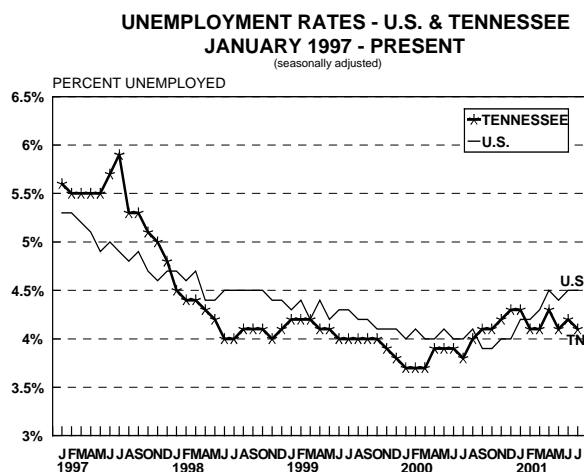
NASHVILLE—Tennessee's unemployment rate declined to 4.1 percent in July, down one-tenth of a percentage point over the month, Commissioner Michael E. Magill, Department of Labor & Workforce Development announced today.

"The state continues to experience low unemployment," Magill said. "Tennessee remains below the national rate, which was 4.5 percent for the month of July."

According to Magill, the monthly figures fluctuated slightly with the summer tourist season in full swing. The year-to-year figures provide a more balanced view of the employment picture compared to the monthly figures, which reflect seasonal fluctuations.

Across the industries, the yearly figures show services up by 19,700 jobs, trade was up by 12,300, and construction added 3,300 jobs. Employment continued to decline in apparel, down by 2,900 jobs, and federal government decreased by 2,900.

The June to July figures are typical for this time of year. Local government (non-education) was up by 2,700 jobs, due to seasonal jobs. Construction was up by 600 and hotel/lodging was up by 500 jobs. Employment was down by 10,700 jobs in local education with schools out for the summer. Manufacturing declined by 3,800 with losses in durable goods.



LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES SUMMARY - TENNESSEE

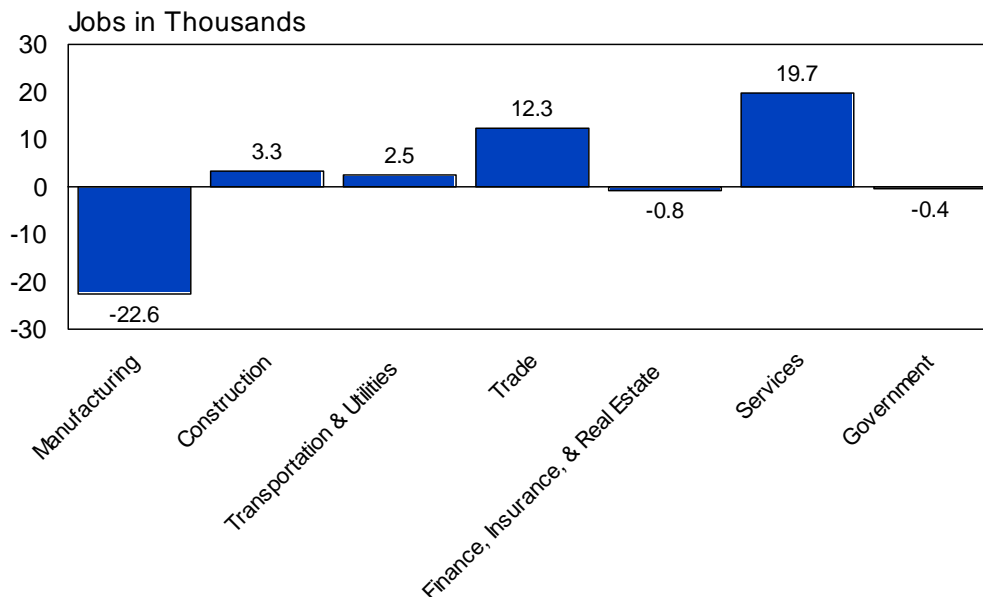
July 2001 (preliminary) - BM2000

Seasonally Adjusted	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate		Rate Change
				Jul.	Jun.	
UNITED STATES	141,774,000	135,379,000	6,395,000	4.5 %	4.5 %	0.0 %
TENNESSEE	2,870,000	2,753,700	116,300	4.1	4.2	-0.1

Not Seasonally Adjusted						
UNITED STATES	143,182,000	136,385,000	6,797,000	4.7 %	4.7 %	0.0 %
TENNESSEE	2,904,500	2,775,900	128,600	4.4	4.5	-0.1

OVER THE YEAR JOB GROWTH

By Major Industry (July 2000-2001)



County and MSA rates will be released on Thursday, August 23, 2001.

--30--

(01-109)

NOTE: Information will be available on the Internet; enter "http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor_figures/". Sound may be obtained from the Governor's NewsLine at 1-800-342-1483 or Nashville area 741-4877.

NOTE: Tennessee's employment and unemployment statistics are based on two major surveys. The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a survey by place of residence providing estimates on the number of people in the labor force, total employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate. Beginning in January 1992, the CPS data are seasonally adjusted for all states as directed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The business survey collects data by place of work and creates information about jobs in various industries. The business survey data are non-seasonally adjusted at this time.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

El Departamento del Trabajo y de la Fuerza Laboral es un organismo empresarial que aplica la igualdad de oportunidades. Los Servicios y ayudas auxiliares están disponibles para los individuos con impedimentos si los solicitan.